



OTHER VIOLENT  
COLD CASE  
CRIMES

# DOJ-BJA Forensic Genetic Genealogy Virtual Training | March 30-April 1, 2022

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*Hosted by the National Sexual Assault Kit Initiative Training and Technical Assistance Program*

## TRAINING AGENDA

All times listed are in Eastern Daylight Time.

### Wednesday, March 30 | 11:00 am–5:00 pm

11:00-11:15 **Welcome & Introduction**

**Presenters:**

**Dr. Angela Williamson**, Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA)

**Ashley Rodriguez**, RTI International

11:15-12:45 **Case Identification and Selection**

**Presenters:**

**Lt. Trampas Gooding**, Texas Department of Public Safety

**Mary Weston**, Cuyahoga County Prosecutor's Office

12:45-1:30 **Lunch Break**

1:30-3:00 **DNA Technologies, Laboratory Processes, and Considerations for  
Choosing Vendors**

**Presenters:**

**Rachel Oefelein**, DNA Labs International

**Teresa Vreeland**, Bode Technology

**Andrew Singer**, Othram Inc.

**Cesar Tirado**, Maricopa County Attorney's Office

**Q&A Panel:**

**Dr. Ellen Greytak**, Parabon NanoLabs

**Dr. James Anstead**, DNA Solutions

**Lisa Kalisek**, Gene by Gene

3:00-3:10 **Break**

3:10-4:10 **Genealogy Overview**

**Presenter:**

**Misty Gillis**, Independent Consultant

4:10-4:55 **The Role of Advocacy in FGG Cases**

**Presenters:**

**Amy Durall**, International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP)

**Ryan Backmann**, Project: Cold Case

4:55-5:00 **Closing**

**Thursday, March 31 | 11:00 am–3:15 pm**

11:00-11:05 **Welcome for Day 2**

11:05-11:30 **NamUs Resources**

**Presenters:**

**Chuck Heurich**, National Institute of Justice (NIJ)

**Dr. Heather McKiernan**, RTI International

11:30-11:40 **FBI Genealogy Program**

**Presenter:**

**Special Agent (SA) Mark James**, Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)

11:40-12:30 **Demonstration of GEDmatch PRO™ and FTDNA Tools**

**Presenter:**

**SA Amy Whitman**, FBI

12:30-1:15 **Lunch Break**

1:15-1:45 **Match Resolution**

**Presenter:**

**Staff Operations Specialist (SOS) Stephanie Mellinger**, FBI

1:45-2:15 **Match Interpretation**

**Presenter:**

**SA Mark James**, FBI

2:15-2:40 **Tree Building**

**Presenter:**

**SOS Stephanie Mellinger**, FBI

2:40-3:10 **Reference Testing**

**Presenter:**  
**SA Sean Regan, FBI**

3:10-3:15     **Closing**

## Friday, April 1 | 11:00 am–4:45 pm

11:00–11:05 **Welcome for Day 3**

11:05–12:00 **FGG as an Investigative Lead**

**Presenters:**

**Sarah Savicki**, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department

**Det. Carol Owens**, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department

12:00–12:15 **Victim or Subject Identification**

**Presenter:**

**SA Mark James**, FBI

12:15–1:00 **Lunch Break**

1:00–2:00 **Surreptitious Collections, Legal Considerations and Misconceptions of FGG**

**Presenters:**

**SA Jon Habben**, FBI

2:00–2:10 **Break**

2:10–4:10 **Prosecution**

**Presenters:**

**Jessica Smith**, Commonwealth's Attorney's Office (Alexandria, Virginia)

**Patti Powers**, AEquitas

4:10–4:40 **Case Presentation**

**Presenter:**

**SA Mark James**, FBI

4:40–4:45 **Closing**

**Presenter:**

**Dr. Angela Williamson**, BJA